



Weekly wrap up

Friday, September 30, 2005

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HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF WALK-A-THON

\$1,432 COLLECTED FOR RED CROSS

We are proud to say that the Volunteer Spirit is alive and well in east Tennessee! In response to the Hurricane Katrina disaster, an idea from Team Coordinator Venecia Churchman quickly turned into the "Hurricane Katrina Relief Walk-A-Thon" at Mountain View Youth Development Center. With the help of many staff and students, the walk-a-thon became a reality on Saturday morning, Sept. 17. More than 100 students and many staff members participated in this three-hour event. By all measures it was a resounding success. First and foremost, Mountain View staff, family, friends, volunteers, and local churches generously donated over \$1200. Additionally, Mountain View students donated \$165 from their personal accounts. Thanks to each and every one of you! All proceeds will be given to the local American Red Cross to be used for relief efforts of evacuees located in east Tennessee.

Special thanks to Mountain View staff and walk-a-thon participants Becky Wester, Jim Seals, Cindi Compton, Linda Norkus, John Thornton, Becky Ramsey, Amy Cotter, Candice Durman, and Roger Bowser.

**--Steve Collier, Program Coordinator
Venecia Churchman, Team Coordinator**

SPOTLIGHT ON HEALTH CARE

The Basics

When a child is placed in the legal custody of DCS, we have a legal duty and obligation as the legal custodian to ensure that a child receives all medically necessary health care services. Supporting a child's well being by ensuring needed health care is received also helps us achieve **safety and permanency**.

WHAT ARE HEALTH CARE SERVICES?

Some are obvious such as EPSDT screenings and visits to the PCP; dental care, mental health or behavioral health care such as counseling, therapy or medication management.

BUT DID YOU KNOW that Targeted Case Management (TCM) is a health care service?

When DCS staff members make appointments for children in custody to see a health care provider and ensure that the child gets to the appointment, we are providing a Medicaid service called "Targeted Case Management". In other words, case management to assist someone in accessing health care services is a health care service itself! DCS gets TennCare funding for providing TCM to children in custody. **This is why we get TennCare appeals filed against DCS if case managers don't make arrangements for DCS children to receive needed health care services in a timely manner.**

DID YOU KNOW THAT DCS RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENTS ARE HEALTH CARE SERVICES, TOO??

It might be obvious that traditional residential treatment facilities such as Levels II, III, and IV, are health care services. However, did you know that placements like medically fragile foster homes and therapeutic foster homes also have a treatment component? For these services, referred to as "Children's Therapeutic Interventions", DCS receives some TennCare funding for the treatment portion of each day.

In future Weekly Wrap-Ups look for these Well Being/Health Care-related articles:

- How to access and PAY for Health Care services for children in DCS custody
- How to use EPSDT benefits as a tool for achieving Reasonable Efforts
- How to properly facilitate informed consent for psychotropic medications

**--Mary Jane Davis,
Sr. Counsel for Health Law & Policy, DCS General Counsel's Ofc.**

Northeast Regional Recruitment & Foster Parent Support

The Northeast Regional Recruitment & Foster Parent Support Team participated in The Appalachian Fair Exhibits the week of August 22nd to 27th in Gray, TN. The annual weeklong event has become a very popular local attraction for Northeast TN.

Sixty-two inquiries were made in regard to fostering and adopting children at the DCS fair booth during this event. From inquiries made additional information is mailed to inform potential applicants of upcoming Path classes. The informational booth had pictures and information on children available for adoption without an identified home as well as various recruitment brochures, pamphlets, goodies, and much needed fans and bottled water. This event was part of our ongoing efforts to recruit homes within the Northeast Region for the children we serve.

We would like to say thank you to our many volunteers that assisted with the DCS fair booth and made our recruitment effort a success. These included both staff and foster parents. The dedicated foster parents that assisted us were: Denise Clemons, Lori Keck, Karen Clark, and Jackie Crawford. Our hardworking staff that assisted were: Jamie Perkins, Ginnie Cole, Laura Pepper-Weiler, Sandy Price, Erin Parker, Sheila Woods, Lora Anderson, Kelly Whitaker, Karen Keck, Marsha Musick, Debbie Caffey, Vanessa Addington, Kristin McKee-Ayers, Tammy Arrowood, Lisa Larimer, Becky Quillen, Michelle Hathaway, Christi Vaughn, Christina Butler, Lou Ann Moore, and Stephanie Richardson.

A special thanks goes to the following staff that took time out of their schedule to paint, decorate, and set-up the booth: Vanessa Addington, Christina Butler, Christi Vaughn, Kristen McKee-Ayers, Debbie Caffey, Stephanie Richardson, Ginnie Cole, and Sandy Price.

--Christi Vaughn